

contd.
a1

7. (amended) A compound according to claim 1 in which R_1 is a linear C_1 - C_4 -alkylene residue which is unsubstituted or substituted by hydroxy, C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkoxy, C_1 - C_4 -hydroxy- or alkoxy-alkoxy, -OCOM, -OCOC $_1$ - C_4 -alkyl and M is as defined in claim 1.

a2
Sub
b4

10. (amended) A compound according to claim 1 in which the group R_2 represents a linear C_1 - C_4 -alkylene residue which is unsubstituted or substituted by hydroxy, C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkoxy, C_1 - C_4 -hydroxy or alkoxyalkoxy, -OCOM, -OCOC $_1$ - C_4 -alkyl, -CO $_2$ M, -CO $_2$ C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, SO $_3$ M, phenoxy which is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkoxy, -CO $_2$ M or -CO $_2$ C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, NH $_2$ or mono- or disubstituted amino and M is as defined in claim 1.

11. (amended) A compound according to claim 10 in which the group R_2 represents a methylene, ethylene or propylene residue which is substituted by hydroxy, C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkoxy, C_1 - C_4 -hydroxy- or alkoxy-alkoxy, -OCOM, -OCOC $_1$ - C_4 -alkyl, -CO $_2$ M, -CO $_2$ C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, SO $_3$ M or di- C_1 - C_4 -alkylamino.

12. (amended) A compound according to claim 10 in which R_2 is hydroxyethyl, hydroxypropyl, ethoxyethyl, hydroxyethoxyethyl, methoxyethoxyethyl, an acetic or propionic acid residue or methyl or ethyl esters thereof, an ethyl or methyl acetate, dimethylaminoethyl or ethyl sulphonic acid or the sodium salt thereof.

a3

14. (amended) A compound according to claim 1 in which each R_2 is phenyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by 1 to 3 SO $_3$ M, SO $_2$ NHC $_1$ - C_4 -alkyl, -SO $_2$ NH $_2$, -CO $_2$ M, -CO $_2$ C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, -CONH $_2$, -CONHC $_1$ - C_4 -alkyl, -NHCOC $_1$ - C_4 -alkyl or mono- or disubstituted amino groups, wherein M is as defined in claim 1.

15. (amended) A compound according to claim 14 in which each R_2 is phenyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by one SO $_3$ M, -SO $_2$ NH $_2$ or -NHCOC $_1$ - C_4 -alkyl group.

16. (amended) A compound according to claim 14 in which each R_2 is phenyl.

17 (amended) A compound according to claim 1 in which R_3 represents hydrogen, C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, halogen, cyano, SO $_3$ M, -SO $_2$ NH $_2$, SO $_2$ NHC $_1$ - C_4 -alkyl, -CO $_2$ M, -CO $_2$ C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, -CONH $_2$, -CONHC $_1$ - C_4 -alkyl, or -NHCOC $_1$ - C_4 -alkyl, M being defined as in claim 1 and m is 1.

Q4 ✓
19. (amended) A compound according to claim 1 in which M is hydrogen, Na, K, Ca, Mg, ammonium, mono-, di-, tri- or tetra-C₁-C₄alkylammonium, mono-, di- or tri-C₁-C₄-hydroxyalkylammonium or ammonium that is di- or tri-substituted with a mixture of C₁-C₄-alkyl and C₁-C₄-hydroxyalkyl groups.

Q5 ✓
21. (amended) A compound of formula 1 according to claim 1 in which:

R₁ is an amino acid residue derived from aspartic acid or iminodiacetic acid,

R₂ is hydroxyethyl,

R₃ is hydrogen and

M is sodium.

Sub B6
22. (amended) A compound of formula 1 according to claim 1 in which:

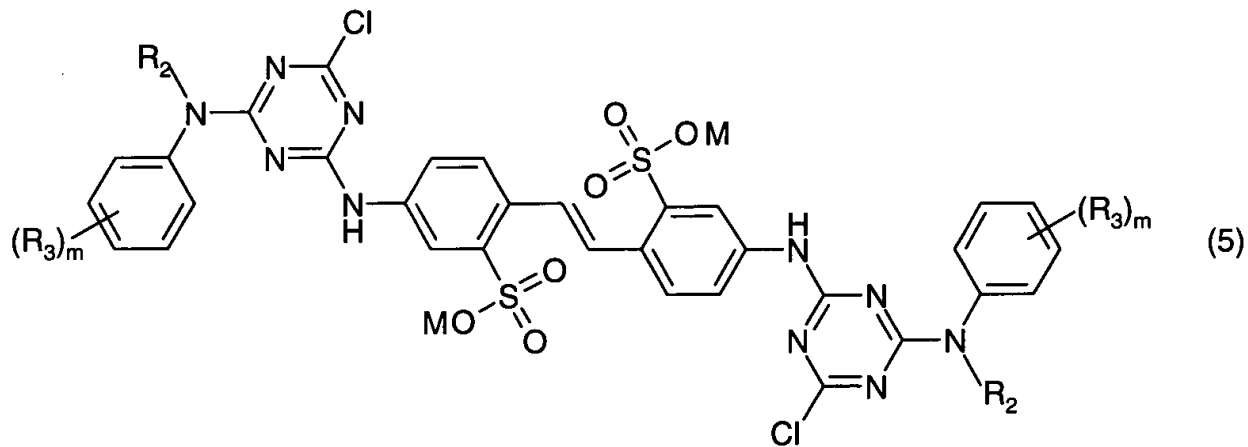
R₁ is a 2-methoxyethylamino residue,

R₂ is a sodium acetate residue,

R₃ is hydrogen and

M is sodium.

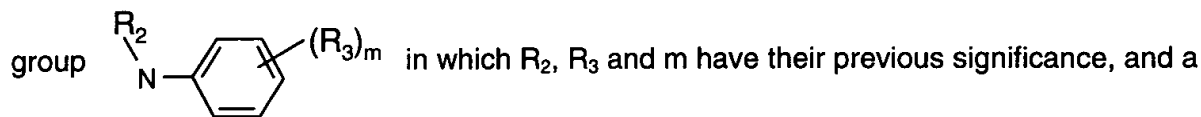
Q6
24. (amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of the formula (1) according to claim 1, which comprises reacting the compound of formula



with a compound capable of introducing a group R₁ in place of X, in which R₁, R₂, R₃, M and m are as defined in claim 1.

contd.
a⁶

25. (amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (1) according to claim 1 by reacting, under known reaction conditions, cyanuric chloride, successively, in any desired sequence, with each of 4,4'-diamino-2,2'-stilbene disulphonic acid, an amino compound capable of introducing a



compound capable of introducing a group R₁, in which R₁ is as defined in claim 1.

a⁷

32. (amended) A composition according to claim 31 containing water and, in each case based on the weight of the formulation, from 3 to 25% by weight of the fluorescent whitening agent and also 0 to 60% of auxiliaries.

Please add the following claims. ✓

a⁸

-- 33. (new) A method for the fluorescent whitening of a substrate comprising contacting the substrate with a compound having the formula (1) as defined in claim 1.

34. (new) A method according to claim 33, wherein the substrate is paper and the compound of formula (1) is applied to the paper substrate in the form of a paper coating composition, or directly in the size press.

35. (new) A method according to claim 34 for the fluorescent whitening of a paper surface, comprising contacting the paper surface with a coating composition comprising a white pigment; a binder dispersion; optionally a water-soluble co-binder; and a sufficient amount of a fluorescent whitening agent having the formula (1), to ensure that the treated paper contains 0.01 to 1 % by weight, based on the white pigment, of the fluorescent whitening agent of the formula (1).

36. (new) A method according to claim 34 for the fluorescent whitening of a paper surface comprising contacting the paper in the size press with an aqueous solution containing a size, optionally an inorganic or organic pigment and 0.1 to 20g/l of a fluorescent whitening agent of the formula (1).

37. (new) A method according to claim ~~33~~, wherein the substrate is a textile material.

contd.
A8

38. (new) A method according to claim 37, wherein the textile material is washed with a household or industrial washing agent comprising an effective amount of a fluorescent whitening agent of the formula (1).

39. (new) A method for the prevention of a colour dye stain caused in the course of processing a silver halide photographic light sensitive material by a colour developer and a bleach-fix bath, comprising incorporating a compound having the formula (1) as defined in claim 1 into the colour developer and/or the bleach-fix bath.--

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